

# ***NEWS RELEASE***

---



***OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  
San Diego, California***

***United States Attorney  
Carol C. Lam***

---

***For Further Information, Contact: Assistant U. S. Attorney John Owens, 619-557-5629***

---

***For Immediate Release***

**NEWS RELEASE SUMMARY - August 12, 2005**

United States Attorney Carol C. Lam today announced that two Las Vegas residents, Phillip and David Scheinman, pled guilty in federal district court in San Diego to federal felony wire fraud charges relating to the sale of counterfeit sports memorabilia. The Scheinmans operated a store in Las Vegas called “Smokey’s Sportscards,” and they sold sports memorabilia from the store and their website to customers throughout the United States. They also sold sports memorabilia through eBay. In pleading guilty, the Scheinmans acknowledged that they knowingly sold sports memorabilia bearing forged signatures, but told customers that the signatures were genuine. These forged signatures included those of Hall of Fame baseball players Walter Johnson and George Sisler, members of the Chicago Bulls basketball championship team (including Michael Jordan), baseball slugger Mark McGwire, and baseball manager Casey Stengel. In connection with their pleas, the defendants also agreed to pay fines and restitution to victims. Sentencing for the Scheinmans is set for December 13, 2005, at 9:00 a.m. before the Honorable Barry Ted Moskowitz.

**DEFENDANTS**

Phillip A. Scheinman  
Las Vegas, Nevada

DOB: 2-06-68

David “Doc” Scheinman  
Las Vegas, Nevada

DOB: 2-15-42

**SUMMARY OF CHARGES AND MAXIMUM PENALTIES****Phillip A. Scheinman**

Wire Fraud, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1343  
Maximum Penalty: 5 years in custody and/or \$250,000 fine

**David “Doc” Scheinman**

Wire Fraud, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1343  
Maximum Penalty: 5 years in custody and/or \$250,000 fine

**AGENCY**

Federal Bureau of Investigation